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For Immediate Release

Johnson County to dedicate new judicial center June 20 — State and local officials, public invited to attend official opening —

FRANKFORT, Ky., June 14, 2006 — The public is invited to celebrate the official opening of the new Johnson County Judicial Center on Tuesday, June 20, at 11 a.m. EDT. The judicial center is located at 908 Third St. in Paintsville.

"Johnson County residents can certainly take pride in the new judicial center," said Johnson County Judge Executive Tucker Daniel. "It is an impressive structure and will serve the needs of our citizens for generations to come. We have received compliments from representatives of other counties across the state looking to build their own projects and they think our facility is the best they have seen. We invite all Johnson Countians to join us at the dedication ceremony."

The judicial center contains approximately 37,800 square feet, which provides space for Circuit and District courts, the Office of Circuit Court Clerk and ancillary services, according to Garlan VanHook, general manager of Court Facilities for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) in Frankfort, which is the fiscal agent for the Kentucky Court of Justice and oversees courthouse construction statewide.

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The new court facility increases efficiency of services and public flow. It is equipped with modern computer, video and networking technology. The design also brings security to Johnson County courts through a single-point entry with magnetometers and security personnel. In addition, prisoners will be segregated from the public through the use of separate entrances, corridors and elevators.

The Johnson County Judicial Center was designed to meet the standards required by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Vaughn & Melton of Middlesboro, Ky., served as the architect, Codell Construction of Winchester, Ky., served as the construction manager and Ross Sinclair of Frankfort, Ky., was the financial advisor.

Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert will speak at the dedication. State legislators, circuit and district judges, county magistrates, AOC staff and local officials are also expected to attend. For more information, contact Judge Executive Tucker Daniel at 606-789-2550.

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